26th December 1953]

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" The hon. Member Sri Mahalingam was asking what the hon. Member was doing when people were dying of starvation. Though the officials concerned were not in a position to go to such long distances for want of transport facilities, the hon. Member went to the spot, organized a relief committee, collected money and did all that was possible and saved the other people. Even now this relief is being continued. But it is regrettable that even in spite of repeated representations the Government and the Hon. Minister were not pleased to look into the matter and see that people were saved from death due to starvation."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" Is this a question? "

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" A personal explanation, Sir."

Sri S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" The hon. Member Sri K. P. Gopalan put a question whether the Government had issued instructions to local authorities concerned not to report starvation deaths even though they occurred. I want definite answer from the Hon. Minister."

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" No, Sir. It is rather insinuating."

Prohibition of lorry traffic on certain roads in South Kanara.

* 271 *Q.*—Sri M. NARAYANA NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state— 12-10 p.m.

(*a*) whether any roads in South Kanara have been prohibited for lorry transport; and

(*b*) if so, why?

The Hon. Dr. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) Yes Sir, goods vehicular traffic has been prohibited on some roads in the district.

" (*b*) This prohibition has been made, as there are a number of weak bridges and culverts which make certain roads unsafe for heavy traffic."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Is it not a fact that in spite of putting up the board ' Not open for lorry traffic ' lorries are still running on such roads? "

The Hon. Dr. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I should like the hon. Member to catch at least one such case and give it to me."

Sri M. S. MOGRAL :—" How long have these culverts been in this condition? "

The Hon. Dr. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I have no idea. We took them over only in April 1952."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" Questions over."